NUMB. CCXXVI.

# The SPECTATOR.

*Pictura Poesis erit* Hor.

*Monday, November* 19. 1711.

I have very often lamented and hinted my Sorrow in several Speculations, that the Art of Painting is made so little Use of to the Improvement of our Manners. When we consider that it places the Action of the Person represented in the most agreeable Aspect imaginable, that it not only expresses the Passion or Concern as it is upon him who is drawn, but has under those Graces the Height of the Painter's Imagination, what strong Images of Virtue and Humanity might we not expect would be instilled into the Mind by the Labours of the Pencil? This is a Poetry which would be understood with much less Capacity and less Expence of Time, than what is taught by Writings; but the Use of it is generally perverted, and that admirable Skill prostituted to the lowest and most unworthy Ends. Who is the better Man for beholding the most beautiful *Venus*, the most thought *Bacchanal*, the Images of sleeping Cupids, Languishing Nymphs, or any of the Representations of Gods, Goddesses, Demy-gods, Satyrs, *Polyphemes*, Sphinxes or Fauns? But if the Virtues and Vices which are sometimes pretended to be represented under such Draughts, were drawn as by the Painter in the Characters of real Life, and the Persons of Men and Women whose Actions have rendered them laudable or infamous; we should not see a good History-Piece without receiving an instructive Lecture. There needs no other Proof of this Truth, than the Testimony of every reasonable Creature who has seen the Cartoons in Her Majesty's Gallery at *Hampton-Court*: Those Representations of no less Actions than those of our Blessed Saviour and his Apostles. As I now sit and recollect the warm Images which the admirable *Raphael* has raised, it is impossible, even from the faint Traces in one's Memory of what one has not seen these two Years, to be unmoved at the Horrour and Reverence which appears in the whole Assembly when the mercenary Man fell down dead; at the Amazement of the Man born Blind, when he first receives Sight; or at the graceful Indignation of the Sorcerer, when he is struck Blind. The Lame, when they first find Strength in their Feet, stand doubtful of their new Vigour. The heavenly Apostles appear acting these great things, with a deep Sense of the Infirmities which they relieve, but no Value of themselves who administer to their Weakness. They know themselves to be but Instruments; and the generous Distress they are painted in when divine Honours are offered to them, is a Representation in the most exquisite Degree of the Beauty of Holiness. When St. *Paul* is preaching to the *Athenians*, with what wonderful Art are almost all the different Tempers of Mankind represented in that elegant Audience? You see one credulous of all that is said, another wrapt up in deep Suspence, another saying there is some Reason in what he says, another angry that the Apostle destroys a favourite Opinion which he is unwilling to give up, another wholly convinced and holding out his Hands in Rapture; while the Generality attend, and wait for the Opinion of those who are of leading Characters in the Assembly. I will not pretend so much as to mention that Chart on which is drawn the Appearance of our Blessed Lord after his Resurrection. Present Authority, late Suffering, Humility and Majesty, Despotick Command and Brotherly Love, are at once seated in his divine Aspect. The Figures of the Eleven Apostles are all in the same Passion of Admiration, but discover it differently according to their Characters. *Peter* receives his Master's Orders on his Knees with an Admiration mixed with a more particular Attention: The two next with a more open Extasie, though still constrained by the Awe of Cœlestial Presence: The beloved Disciple, whom I take to be the Right of the two first Figures, has in his Countenance Wonder drowned in Love; and the last Personage, whose Back is towards the Spectator and his Side towards the Presence, one would fancy to be St. *Thomas*, as abashed by the Conscience of his former Diffidence; which perplexed Concern it is possible *Raphael* thought too hard a Task to draw but by this Acknowledgement of the Difficulty to describe it.

The whole Work is an Exercise of the highest Piety in the Painter; and all the Touches of a religious

religious Mind are expressed in a Manner much more forcible than can possibly be performed by the most moving Eloquence. These invaluable Pieces are very justly in the Hands of the greatest and most pious Sovereign in the World; and cannot be the frequent Object of every one at their own Leisure. But as an Engraver is to the Painter, what a Printer is to an Author, it is worthy Her Majesty's Name, that she has encouraged that noble Artist, Monsieur *Dorigny*, to publish these Works of *Raphael*. We have of this Gentleman a Piece of the Resurrection, which, I think, is held a Work second to none in the World.

Methinks it would be ridiculous in our People of Condition, after their large Bounties to Foreigners of no Name or Merit, should they overlook this Occasion of having for a trifling Subscription, a Work which it is impossible for a Man of Sense to behold, without being warmed with the noblest Sentiments that can be inspired by Love, Admiration, Compassion, Contempt of this World, and Expectation of a Better.

It is certainly the greatest Honour we can do our Country, to distinguish Strangers of Merit who apply to us with Modesty and Diffidence, which generally accompanies Merit. No Opportunity of this Kind ought to be neglected; and a modest Behaviour should alarm us to examine whether we do not lose something excellent under that Disadvantage in the Possessor of that Quality. My Skill in Paintings, where one is not directed by the Passion of the Pictures, is so inconsiderable, that I am in very great Perplexity when I offer to speak of any Performances of Painters of Landskips, Buildings, or single Figures. This makes me at a Loss how to mention the Pieces which Mr. *Boul* expoſes to Sale by Auction on *Wednesday* next in *Shandon-street*: But having heard him commended by those who have bought of him heretofore for great Integrity in his Dealing, and over-heard him himself (tho' a laudable Painter) say nothing of his own was fit to come into the Room with those he had to sell, I feared I should lose an Occasion of serving a Man of Worth in omitting to speak of his Auction.


ADVERTISEMENT.

*There is arrived from* Italy *a Painter who acknowledges himself the greatest Person of the Age in that Art, and is willing to be renowned in this Island as he declares he is in foreign Parts.*

The Doctor paints the Poor for nothing.


The Sixth Day.

For the Benefit of the Author,

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Monday, being the 19th Day of November, will be presented a new Comedy call'd, The Wife's Relief; or, The Husband's Cure. And by her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes. Note, The Tickets that could not be receiv'd the third Day for want of Room, will be taken to Day.

This Play is Sold by Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's-Head, over against Katherine-street in the Strand.


At the Griffin in Long-lane is a Stable of very fine fresh Horses to be sold, some of which are very fit for Officers.

These are to give Notice, That the Sale of the Cargo of the Ship Oley arrigat is adjourned till Tuesday next, being the 20th Instant, at 9 a Clock in the Forenoon, at which Time it will commence at Garraway's Coffee-house pursuant to former Notice. Note, The Arrack may be again viewed at the respective Warehouses at Bumkin-Wharf.

For the Benefit of Mr. Anthony Young, Organist of St. Clement's-Danes, at Stationer's-hall, on Thursday the 22d Instant being St. Cæcilia's Day, will be performed a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, most of which will be entirely new; and Leveridge sings that celebrated Song, beginning, At Genius of Love attend. Tickets are to be had at St. James's Coffee-house, Tom's in Devereux-Court, John's in Sweetbins Ally, and at Charles Lillie's at the Corner of Beaufort Buildings in the Strand, at 3 s. each.

Whereas Sagoe has of late been sold for 16 s. the best is now sold for 4 s. a Pound by most Druggists in London.

To be sold by Auction,

A curious Collection of old Italian Prints and Drawings, being the Collection of Mr. Roberts, late of St. Paul's Church-yard, Painter, deceas'd; on Wednesday the 21st of this Instant November, at 4 a Clock in the Afternoon, at Tom's Coffee-house in St. Martin's lane, Covent-Garden, where Catalogues may be had, and the Prints seen this Day until the Time of Sale.

Wines to be sold by Retail.

Excellent Red and White Port, and Red and White Lisbon Thinning Wines as they came from the Grapes, the best Growth in Portugal. To be sold by the Importer in a Vault in Brabant-Court in Philpot-Lane, viz. Red and White Port at 2 s. per Gallon, or 14 l. per Hhd. Red and White Lisbon at 15 s. 6 d. per Gallon, or 16 l. per Hhd. Attendance will be given every Day till 6 at night.

Lately Publish'd,

Just Measures of the pious Institution of Youth, represented according to the plain Maxims of the Gospel. Part II. With Animadversions on some Opinions of the Reverend Mr. [illegible]. The 2d Edition, corrected and enlarged. By George [illegible], M. A. Sold by J. Downing in Bartholomew-Close near Smithfield, where may likewise be had the 2d Edition of the two Parts, as also the Life of the pious and learned Dr. Henry More, the Father's Legacy to his Children.

This Day is publish'd,

The Ballance of Power, or a Comparison of the Strength of the Emperor and the French King. Price 1 d. A Letter to a High Churchman, in Answer to the Reasons why the War should not be put an End to. Price 6 d. Anguis in Herba, the fatal Consequences of a Treaty with France. Price 6 d. Reflections on the Examiner's fraudulent Peace. Price 2 d. Both in a Dialogue between the late Medley and Examiner. Price 6 d. Stitch'd with or without the Plan. All Sold by A. Baldwin.

The Art of Husbandry. Part II. Containing Additions as are proper for the Husbandman and Gardiner: Put under their proper Heads; according to the Method of the first. To which is added a Kalender, shewing what is to be done every Month in the Year in the Flower-Garden, with an Index to the whole. By John Mortimer, Gent. Printed for H. and G. Mortlock at the Phœnix, and J. Robinson at the Golden-Lion in St. Paul's Church-yard.

Dr. BYFIELD's Sal Oleosum Volatile;

Now publish'd by the Authority of Her Majesty, by her most gracious Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, dispensed and sold by Wholesale and Retail at his House in Bell-Court near Fleet-Street, where some Account of its Nature, Use in Diet, Medicine, and as to Wines and other spirituous Liquors may be had gratis, and Encouragement given to Exportation and Retailers.

An Infallible Cure for the Stone and Gravel, whether in the Reins or Bladder, by an inconparable Chymical Liquor, which in the most Racking Fits, gives instant ease, and Perfect Cure; frees the Patient from all Pains in the Back, and those Pains [illegible] like the Cholick; dilates the Ureters, makes them slippery that the Stones and Gravel may pass from the Reins to be voided freely with Urine, without pain; cleanses the Kidneys, Bladder, and all the Urinary Passages from slimy calculous Matter, certainly takes off all Pain, and stoppage of Urine, and absolutely breaks and dissolves large Stones (possible to be dissolved) whether in Kidneys or Bladder, so as entirely to Cure the Dilleinper; assuredly prevents the Fits in those that are troubled only with Gravel, and for all Distempers in the Reins and Bladder, is a stupendious Remedy, causing delightful and pleasant Rest and perfect Health. Is sold only at Jacob's Coffee-house against the Angel and Crown Tavern in Threadneedle-street near the Royal Exchange, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.



*LONDON*: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.


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